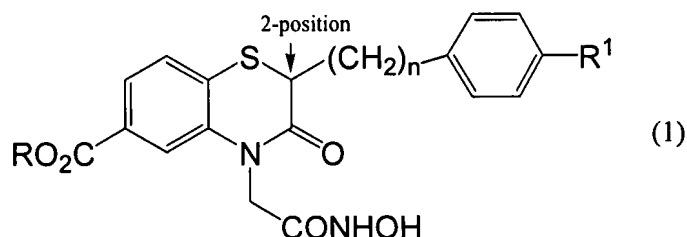


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original): A benzothiazin-3-one compound represented by the formula (1):



wherein n is 3 or 4; R is an ethyl group or a hydrogen atom; and R¹ is a halogen atom, an alkoxy group, a haloalkyl group or a haloalkoxy group, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (original): A benzothiazin-3-one compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein in the formula (1), R¹ is a fluorine atom, a chlorine atom, a methoxy group, a trifluoromethyl group or a trifluoromethoxy group.

3. (currently amended): A benzothiazin-3-one compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein in the formula (1), the configuration relating to the carbon atom at the 2-position is an S-configuration.

4. (currently amended): A benzothiazin-3-one compound or

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein R is an ethyl group.

5. (currently amended): A benzothiazin-3-one compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein R is a hydrogen atom.

6. (original): A compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein the compound represented by the formula (1) is (-)-ethyl 4-[2-(hydroxyamino)-2-oxoethyl]-2-[3-(4-methoxyphenyl)propyl]-3-oxo-3,4-dihydro-2H-1,4-benzothiazine-6-carboxylate.

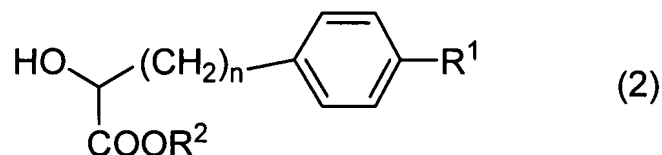
7. (original): A compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein the compound represented by the formula (1) is (-)-4-[2-(hydroxyamino)-2-oxoethyl]-2-[3-(4-methoxyphenyl)propyl]-3-oxo-3,4-dihydro-2H-1,4-benzothiazine-6-carboxylic acid.

8. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a benzothiazin-3-one compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1 as an active ingredient.

9. (currently amended): A matrix metallo-proteinase inhibitor comprising a benzothiazin-3-one compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1 as an active ingredient.

10. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prophylaxis of chondrodegenerative diseases or inflammatory diseases comprising a benzothiazin-3-one compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1 as an active ingredient.

11. (original): A compound represented by the formula
(2):



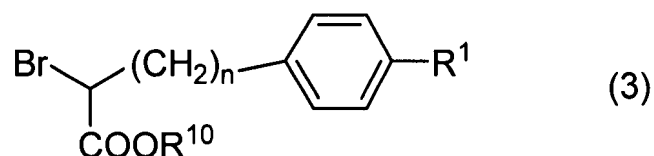
wherein n is 3 or 4; R¹ is a halogen atom, an alkoxy group, a haloalkyl group or a haloalkoxy group; and R² is an alkyl group of 2 or 3 carbon atoms, a 4-nitrobenzyl group or a 2,2,2-trichloroethyl group.

12. (original): A compound according to claim 11, wherein the alkyl group of 2 or 3 carbon atoms is an ethyl group.

13. (currently amended): A compound according to ~~claims 11 or 12~~claim 11, which has an S-configuration.

14. (currently amended): A compound according to ~~claims 11 or 12~~claim 11, which has an R-configuration.

15. (original): A compound represented by the formula
(3):



wherein n is 3 or 4; R¹ is a halogen atom, an alkoxy group, a haloalkyl group or a haloalkoxy group; and R¹⁰ is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, a 4-nitrobenzyl group or a 2,2,2-trichloroethyl group.

16. (original): A compound according to claim 15, wherein the alkyl group of 1 to 6 carbon atoms is a methyl group or an ethyl group.

17. (currently amended): A compound according to claim 15 ~~or 16~~, which has an S-configuration.

18. (currently amended): A compound according to claim 15 ~~or 16~~, which has an R-configuration.